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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:

NIKOLAI I. AFANASENKO ET AL. (PCT)

SERIAL NO.:

08/646,213

GROUP:

3302

FILED:

MAY 7, 1996

EXAMINER: J. MOLLO

FOR:

DEVICE FOR TREATMENT OF PATIENTS WITH DISTURBED

POSTURE AND MOTOR ACTIVITY

## PRELIMINARY RESPONSE

Hon. Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination, the following remarks are being presented, including the enclosed Exhibits A to F.

## REMARKS

The Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's allegation that "the arrangement of the elastic tie-members has not previously been the subject matter of the claims".

As ensues from the disclosure of the parent patent application, the arrangement of the elastic tie-members is the principal subject matter of the present invention.

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According to the specification of the present application, "the elastic tie-members are arranged on the surface of the patient's body in antagonistic pairs so as to follow the anatomical arrangement of the skeletal muscles" (See lines 32-34 on page 5; line 1 of page 6 of the present Specification).

In the last amendment it was stated that "the elastic tiemembers are arranged on the patient's trunk taking into account
their position relative to the spinal column, that is, to the